

HONORING PROFESSOR ED
DEPETERS OF DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Professor Ed DePeters, the 2009 recipient of the University of California, Davis Prize for Undergraduate Teaching and Scholarly Achievement. This \$40,000 prize, first awarded in 1987, is believed to be the largest undergraduate teaching award in the nation. The prize is awarded to scholars who are successful not only in their research, but convey their excitement and love of scholarship to their students.

Professor DePeters, or “Dr. D” as students call him, is an animal scientist and expert in dairy cow nutrition, but his hallmark at UC Davis is imparting his knowledge and passion for these subjects to his students.

Growing up on a farm in upstate New York, Professor DePeters developed an interest in animal agriculture that led him to Cornell University for a bachelor's degree in animal science. He went on to Penn State for a master's degree in dairy science, but instead of returning home as he had planned, he continued his studies and earned his doctoral degree in dairy science, which led him to a faculty position at UC Davis.

Professor DePeters' research focuses on how the composition of milk, particularly the fatty-acid content, can be modified by changes in the cow's diet, and how agricultural byproducts such as almond hulls and cottonseed can be converted into nutritious feeds. His research has resulted in more than 120 scientific publications and is widely influential in the industry.

Notwithstanding his research achievements, Professor DePeters' energy and personal concern have stood out in the minds of his students. Their reviews are peppered with comments like “very enthusiastic” . . . “really knows his material” . . . “very approachable” . . . “incredible teacher” . . . “funny and gifted” . . . “the most motivated and dedicated teacher” . . . “a great guy and awesome professor” . . . “I love this class; it's top priority.” He teaches a lower-division course in livestock production and upper-division courses in dairy cattle production and animal feeds and nutrition.

Professor DePeters makes a point of learning students' names, and he takes pictures of each student and carries the pictures around with him until he has learned them all.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time for us to acknowledge and thank Professor Ed DePeters for his years of exemplary work as a scholar and educator, and to congratulate him on receiving this well-deserved award. His commitment to inspiring and educating students has been unwavering, and he deserves our congratulations.

CELEBRATING THE 61ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE
NATION OF ISRAEL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Israel on the 61st anniversary of its founding on May 14, 1948.

Israel is a true friend to the United States. For the past 61 years, Israel and the United States have been linked on many levels. We have sustained a strong partnership, sharing not only a commitment to peace and security in the Middle East, but also common democratic ideals and principles.

Israel is a nation founded by people seeking refuge from religious persecution. It has developed into a thriving democracy proud of its achievements, building a strong and vibrant society committed to the rule of law and sustaining a robust economy.

While Israelis continue to contribute a great deal to society, the state of Israel exists in a dangerous neighborhood. It has weathered continued attacks by Hamas and Hezbollah and faces an increasing threat from Iran. These are real obstacles to peace that threaten the safety of Israeli men, women, and children, and affect the stability of the region. Despite these challenges, Israel still works toward peace and security with its neighbors.

Israel has taken meaningful, unilateral steps toward this end. It has fostered an amicable, working relationship with Egypt and Jordan, removed troops from Gaza and Lebanon, and has participated in open negotiations with the Palestinian government to work toward a productive peace agreement for both sides. While the United States will remain an active player in the Middle East peace process, true peace can only be achieved through a pragmatic and faithful approach constructed by regional authorities.

Madam Speaker, Israel wants peace, and the United States must remain committed to helping its friend achieve this goal. I stand here today to affirm my commitment to the nation of Israel and to congratulate our friend and partner on its 61st anniversary.

FRAUD ENFORCEMENT AND RECOVERY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of S. 386, the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act. This legislation provides the Department of Justice with the tools it needs to fight fraud in the use of funds under the Troubled Asset Relief Program, TARP, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. S.386 has a number of provisions that seek to protect Americans by ensuring the agencies tasked with investigating and prosecuting mortgage and financial fraud have the funding and personnel they need to do so. I am also pleased the House recognizes the need for increased accountability for mortgage lending

businesses not directly regulated or insured by the Federal Government, an industry responsible for nearly half the residential mortgage market before the housing crash.

I am more hesitant to support other provisions of S. 386. This bill includes an amendment to establish a special commission to investigate the causes of the current financial crisis. I believe that any such commission should be comprised of members of this body, who are furthermore from the committees of jurisdiction relevant to the matter. I have introduced a resolution, H. Res. 345, to do precisely that. It is my long-held belief that the Congress should, contrary to the prevailing fashion of the times, conduct its own oversight work. For the simple fact that members of this body will ultimately write the legislation to reimpose a strict regulatory framework upon the financial services industry, they should be personally involved in vigorous efforts to expose the many and sundry causes of this country's recent economic collapse. In brief, well-informed members of Congress write more effective legislation.

With this in mind, I voice my support for aggressive oversight of the financial services industry, but respectfully object to the manner in which S. 386, as amended, mandates it be performed.

CONGRATULATING EAGLES OF DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Eagles of DeSoto High School on their victory over neighboring Cedar Hill High School. This “Battle of Belt Line” has been played many times over the years, but this was the first time the state title was on the line. With the Eagles win, DeSoto can now claim their second state basketball championship. These outstanding young men have come a long way this past season and have made their community in Dallas County so very proud.

Winning a state championship is something that will last a lifetime. It is a remarkable achievement that few teams ever experience, and it is a legacy that will live with the 2008–09 Eagles forever. The Eagles and Coach Chris Dyer know what brought this state title back to DeSoto—hard work. It is doing that one extra sprint, that extra drill, shooting that extra free throw after practice that helped make the Eagles champions. Nobody outworked the Eagles and nobody could beat them in the state tournament. And nobody had a greater following or more community support than the Eagles of DeSoto High.

It is an honor to pay tribute to the entire Eagles squad and on behalf of all the residents of Texas, congratulations again to the Eagles of DeSoto High School and Coach Chris Dyer and the entire DeSoto community—you are an inspiration to us all. It is Eagles Pride at its finest. Go Eagles!

HONORING THE ST. CLOUD AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AWARD
RECIPIENTS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor three people and companies that embody both the spirit of American entrepreneurship and the heart of American public service: John W. McDowall, owner of the McDowall Company, The Mahowald Insurance Agency, and Byron Bjorklund, owner of Short Stop Custom Catering. Today, they will be honored by the St. Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce for their outstanding success and positive contributions to the St. Cloud community.

I want to congratulate John W. McDowall, this year's recipient of the Chamber's Entrepreneurial Success Award. Mr. McDowall joined the family business after graduating high school in 1973 and worked his way up the ladder until being named President in 1999. Today, this construction company employs 130 individuals and continues to earn an impressive profit despite unexpected price increases and a sluggish economy. In addition to running a successful business, Mr. McDowall contributes to the community through his involvement on numerous boards, including Bremer, St. Cloud Technical College, St. Cloud Opportunities, and the Boys and Girls Club.

I also want to recognize The Mahowald Insurance Agency for earning the Chamber's Mark of Excellence Award. The family-owned business, which has been passed to four generations, began in 1930 when Anthony Mahowald started going door to door every week collecting premiums for life insurance policies he sold. When Tony's son, Robert Mahowald, took over in 1956, he expanded the agency beyond personal insurance coverage. The Mahowald Insurance Agency serves people, businesses, and even the schools of the St. Cloud area—and hopefully for many generations to come.

Last but not least, I want to recognize Byron Bjorklund, owner of the Short Stop Custom Catering and the 2009 St. Cloud Area Small Business Person on the Year. Beginning his career at the young age of 11, Mr. Bjorklund started in the fast food industry and in 1995, his business evolved into a catering service. He has experienced a nearly 25 percent growth by establishing solid relationships with a variety of businesses and organizations. And thanks to his entrepreneurship, more than 100 people have full-or part-time employment.

Madam Speaker, I applaud these outstanding individuals and businesses who have worked hard to achieve the American dream of free enterprise and serve our community by ensuring small businesses remain the job engine of America.

HONORING REVEREND DR. LEROY
SHELTON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I arise today and pay tribute to the life of Reverend Dr. LeRoy Shelton. Dr. Shelton passed away suddenly on Monday, May 4th. The Flint community has lost one of its greatest leaders and I have lost a dear friend. His funeral is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12th at Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Flint.

Dr. Shelton became the pastor of Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in 1987. During this time the congregation grew in numbers and strength. A committed member of Concerned Pastors for Social Change, he was a vocal activist for those in need. He understood the challenges faced by individuals and advocated at all levels of government to improve the lives of our citizens. He served as a delegate to the 1992 Democratic Convention and attended the Inauguration of Bill Clinton to the Presidency. In 1995 President Clinton invited Dr. Shelton to dinner at the White House.

He viewed his political involvement as an extension of his ministry to be Christ's representative in a needy world. His love and concern for others knew no bounds. Dr. Shelton loved his congregation and they loved him. He said about being the pastor of Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church:

To have shared twenty-three years in the life of the 80 years of this church . . . Canaan to Christ Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church. In the interim before my pastoring began, I was impressed with the commitment, dedication, and love the members demonstrated towards one another. My mentor, the late Alfred L.C. Robbs afforded me every opportunity to grow, develop, and above all study formally to prepare myself spiritually.

Fortunately, I earned the opportunity to become his successor. Realizing that no one can ever fill the shoes of anyone, not even by following in the path trod before, the congregation enveloped me and has worked with me in a Christian manner. In the midst of hills and valleys, there has been much love. As great as the past has been, we have not ceased. We are striving to make the next years a journey upon which our Lord will be able to place a stamp of approval and say: "Well done, my good and faithful servants." It is our hope that you will have an opportunity to visit our church, "Where Christian Fellowship Is Real."

Madam Speaker, Reverend Dr. LeRoy Shelton has traveled home to be with Our Lord, Jesus Christ. During his time with us, Dr. Shelton touched lives, healed spirits, empowered the poor, and brought Christ's abundance to disheartened. He traveled the road to salvation with many people. My life is better for having known him and I share in the sorrow felt by the Christ Fellowship family. My condolences go out to his wife, Claudia, his children and to the members of Christ Fellowship. Dr. Shelton was a truly great Christian. I ask the House of Representatives to stand with me and applaud the life, charity and legacy of Reverend Dr. LeRoy Shelton.

HONORING BRYAN STONE

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bryan Stone, named the 2009 Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Council of America. To win this prestigious award one must possess entrepreneurial spirit, creativity, vision and managerial acumen as well as a profound commitment to community service.

As the owner of Columbus Gourmet, Bryan Stone has grown his business while becoming an integral part of Muscogee County.

In 2004, Stone acquired a "mom and pop" business called Kendrick Pecan and in just five years he has expanded rapidly into a thriving specialty food operation that now also includes La Piccolina, Dodge City Steaks and Aunt Pearl's. His products now enjoy strong regional brand recognition and the company now employs up to 30 people at a time.

Stone's gourmet products line the shelves of more than 900 grocery stores and he has licensing agreements for specialties and commemorative items with the Kentucky Derby, Coca-Cola, the PGA Tour, the National Infantry Foundation and Hank Aaron's Chasing the Dream Foundation.

Columbus Gourmet always cuts a slice for the local community, too. It provides vital resources to Partners in Education of Greater Columbus, which funds after-school programs, and it supplies Gourmet products that Rotary Clubs sell to raise money for charity projects.

The 3rd Congressional District resident supplements his company's philanthropic work with his own. Though he's lived there only a short time, he's already a member of the Board of Directors of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce and he's served in a leadership with the local Republican Party.

Madam Speaker, we're justifiably proud in Georgia of our strong small business culture and the entrepreneurial spirit of our people who have helped our state grow and thrive. Bryan Stone exemplifies the hard work, risk-taking and perseverance that has made our economy the greatest in the world.

I ask the House to join me in congratulating Bryan Stone on winning the Small Business Person of the Year award. On behalf of the people of Georgia's 3rd Congressional District, we're proud to have Bryan Stone as our neighbor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 211 on the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, H.R. 46, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."